

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented): A mounting arrangement for the internal dividing elements of refrigerators and freezers, comprising:

a compartment having two lateral walls, each carrying at least one rail on which is slidably seated an adjacent lateral portion of an internal dividing element to be horizontally displaced between a first position, in which it is retracted inside the compartment, and second positions in which it is partially displaced forwardly and outwardly from the compartment, wherein each rail includes a flat horizontal upper track and a lower track, the lower track being parallel to the upper track and including a stop device and a longitudinal guide rail, each lateral portion of the internal dividing element including a seating surface to be slidably seated on the upper track of the respective rail and a retaining surface disposed below the lower track and which carries a lock, which in an operative position, is slidably seated against the lower track of the same rail, in order to abut said stop device to define a second maximum displacement position of the internal dividing element forwardly and outwardly from the compartment, at least one of the lateral portions of the internal dividing element further including, in distinct regions of the longitudinal extension of the retaining surface thereof, a guide follower which is slidably fitted in the guide rail of the lower track of the respective rail.

2 . (Previously presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein the guide rail is defined by a downwardly opened groove extended along the whole extension of the lower track, the guide follower being defined by a rib upwardly projecting upwardly from the track of the retaining surface.

3 . (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein the guide rail is disposed below the upper track of the respective rail and presents a width which is substantially smaller than that of the respective lower track.

4 . (Withdrawn): The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stop device is cutout from the profile of the lower track of the rail.

5. (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein the lock is selectively manually displaced from the operative position to an inoperative position, in which it no longer abuts the front stop device of the lower track of the respective rail when the internal dividing element reaches its second maximum displacement position, in order to allow the internal dividing element to be completely extracted from the interior of the compartment.

6. (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein each lateral portion of the internal dividing element presents a "U" shaped cross section, with the basic leg being vertically disposed and with the internal faces of the lateral legs defining the seating surface and the retaining surface, respectively.

7. (Currently Amended): The arrangement as set forth in claim 6, wherein the retaining surface is defined by a median longitudinal extension of the respective lateral portion, of the internal dividing element, which is maintained slidingly seated against the lower track ~~[(24)]~~ of the rail.

8. (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 7, wherein the retaining surface is defined by an insert fitted in the lower lateral leg of the respective lateral portion of the internal dividing element.

9. (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 8, wherein the lock is defined by a portion, cutout in the retaining surface and which is upwardly bent and resiliently downwardly deformed to the inoperative position.

10. (Previously presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 8, wherein the guide followed is incorporated to the retaining surface and includes two portions, each longitudinally disposed on one of the sides of the lock.

11. (Previously Presented): The arrangement as set forth in claim 7, wherein each rail incorporates two stop devices longitudinally spaced from each other.